

DISCOVERY OF A NEW EVERBEARING RASPBERRY--POULTRY

Albert Baker, who grows thousands of raspberries in New York State and sells them in lots of 15,000 to 20,000 to nurserymen, was largely responsible for the introduction of the new raspberry Erskine Park. George M. Darrow of the United States Department of Agriculture was the first to realize the commercial importance of this berry, and it was through him that Mr. Baker learned of the new fruit.

In the season of 1916 Mr. Darrow travelled from the Atlantic to the Pacific, visiting berry growers to obtain information for bulletins on berries. The importance of Baker's work, Darrow, on his way west and again on his return, visited Baker, staying over night on the New York

er's raspberry plantation on the return east. One man having spent his life growing raspberries, testing every variety he could find, and the other having spent the summer visiting all the most important growers in the country, taking hundreds of photographs of plantations, plants and berries, the conversation that evening undoubtedly brought out experiences that a stenographer should have taken down for the benefit of gardeners the world over.

Darrow told how Edward J. Norman, in charge of the Westinghouse estate in the Berkshires, a few years before had found a seedling raspberry with such distinct characteristics as to attract his attention. Additional plants were propagated from the parent and quite a good sized berry patch resulted. All through the autumn season the gardener was supplying large, luscious raspberries for dinner parties, much to his satisfaction and to the gratification of the neighbors, although the price demanded for the fruit seemed high.

Erskine considered this variety far ahead of St. Regis or Hanners and told Baker where he might obtain a few plants. Baker was off soon after

to obtain the cherished plants. A stock was worked up as soon as possible, which was placed in the hands of nurserymen for a large consideration. The nurserymen have in turn multiplied the plants so they may be sold at a reasonable price for planting in home gardens everywhere.

Glen Bros. of Rochester, the introducers, say they have not let the plants fruit to any great extent on their grounds, as their effort has been to increase the number of plants as quickly as possible. The plants, they say, are by far the strongest growing raspberries they have ever seen; they branch like trees and have the most roots and the longest roots of any variety with which they are acquainted. This raspberry came through the terrible weather last winter at Rochester, N. Y., when peach trees were killed and other trees and supposedly hardy plants suffered greatly.

It is only fair to George M. Darrow to say that his conversation with Albert Baker was not intended for publication. These connected with the Agriculture Department are "funny" about such matters, but to omit it would spoil a story in which all gardeners will be interested.

POULTRY POINTERS.

Two Pennsylvania men furnish a good example of how money is lost in the poultry business. One owns 1,500 acres worth \$100 an acre, but his hens do not pay. The other has 500 acres that cost more than \$1,000 an acre, and his hens "went shy" also. There were coops, feeds and attendants on both



Erskine Park everbearing red raspberry.

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